
-continued

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

ATCGGACGTGGACGTGCAGA

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What is claimed is:

1. A chimeric antibody comprising at least part of a human immunoglobulin constant region and at least part of a non-human immunoglobulin variable region, said antibody capable of binding an epitope specific for human tumor necrosis factor TNF α , wherein the non-human immunoglobulin variable region comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 3 and SEQ ID NO: 5.

2. An immunoassay method for detecting human TNF in a sample, comprising:

(a) contacting said sample with an antibody according to claim 1, or a TNF binding fragment thereof, in detectably labeled form; and

(b) detecting the binding of the antibody to said TNF.

3. A chimeric antibody comprising at least part of a human immunoglobulin constant region and at least part of a non-human immunoglobulin variable region, said antibody capable of binding an epitope specific for human tumor necrosis factor TNF α , wherein the non-human immunoglobulin variable region comprises a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4.

4. An immunoassay method for detecting human TNF in a sample, comprising:

(a) contacting said sample with an antibody according to claim 3, or a TNF binding fragment thereof, in detectably labeled form; and

(b) detecting the binding of the antibody to said TNF.

20 5. A chimeric antibody, comprising two light chains and two heavy chains, each of said chains comprising at least part of a human immunoglobulin constant region and at least part of a non-human immunoglobulin variable region, said variable region capable of binding an epitope of human tumor necrosis factor hTNF α , wherein said light chains comprise variable regions comprising SEQ ID NO: 3 and said heavy chains comprise variable regions comprising SEQ ID NO: 5.

25 6. A chimeric antibody according to claim 5, wherein the human immunoglobulin constant region is an IgG1.

30 7. A chimeric antibody comprising at least part of a human IgG1 constant region and at least part of a non-human immunoglobulin variable region, said antibody capable of binding an epitope specific for human TNF α , wherein the non-human immunoglobulin variable region comprises a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4.

35 8. A polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein said polypeptide binds to hTNF α and competitively inhibits the binding of monoclonal antibody cA2 to hTNF α .

40 9. A polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein said polypeptide binds to hTNF α and competitively inhibits the binding of monoclonal antibody cA2 to hTNF α .

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